

5       STREPTOCOCCAL SERUM OPACITY FACTORS AND FIBRONECTIN-BINDING  
          PROTEINS AND PEPTIDES THEREOF FOR THE TREATMENT  
          AND DETECTION OF STREPTOCOCCAL INFECTION

                  Abstract of the Disclosure

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          Provided herein are *S. pyogenes* serum opacity factor (SOF)- and *S. dysgalactiae*  
          fibronectin-binding protein-based polypeptide, polynucleotide, and antibody compositions  
          and methods. Compositions provided herein are effective in eliciting opsonic and/or  
          protective antibodies specific for *S. pyogenes* and/or *S. dysgalactiae* and, consequently, are  
15   useful *inter alia* for the treatment, diagnosis, and monitoring of streptococcal infections,  
          including *S. pyogenes* and *S. dysgalactiae* infections, and diseases associated with *S.*  
          *pyogenes* and *S. dysgalactiae* infections ranging from, but not limited to, mild and generally  
          self-limiting infections of the pharynx and skin to more severe and life-threatening  
          infections, such as toxic shock syndrome and necrotizing fasciitis. Compositions and  
20   methods provided herein will also find use in preventing, or minimizing the severity of, the  
          major sequelae of streptococcal infections are acute rheumatic fever and acute  
          glomerulonephritis, as well as associated autoimmune neurological disorders.